



City News In Brief

www.ci.santa-barbara.ca.us

Street Tree Removal and Pruning within City Parkways and Private Front Yards are regulated by the City of Santa Barbara...



Do You Know Why?

During the past 100 years, thousands of interesting and unusual trees from many parts of the world have been planted along our city streets and in public parks. Private property owners also have planted trees here. In an effort to preserve, maintain, and when necessary, replace these trees, the City of Santa Barbara adopted two ordinances concerning trees and other plants growing in parkways along city streets and in front yards of private properties within the city.



Activities Regulated by Municipal Code Section 15.20

- No planting of any tree or shrub within a parkway without a permit from the city's Parks Division.
- No pruning of a parkway tree without a permit.
- No tree removal without a permit.
- No paving of parkway areas without a permit.
- No root pruning except as authorized by the city's arborist.
- Planting of ground cover plants that will not exceed eight inches in mature height is allowed without a permit.

To obtain a permit for any of the above activities, call (805) 564-5433.

Activities Regulated by Municipal Code Section 15.24

- No removal of front yard landscape setback trees over four inches in trunk diameter or 24 inches above ground level, without approval of the City Park and Recreation Commission.
- No topping of front yard trees which will reduce the height and spread of the tree crown by more than one-third or destroy the natural branch structure of the tree without approval of the City Park and Recreation Commission.

To determine the dimensions of the front yard landscape setback by specific land use zone, call (805) 564-5433 for assistance from the city's Parks Division staff.

Citations with fines ranging from \$100 to \$1,000 may be assessed against property owners and tree service providers found to be in violation of either Municipal Code Section 15.20 or 15.24.

Additional information on the city's tree policies is available in a brochure titled *Tree Planting, Pruning and Removal Regulations for the City of Santa Barbara*. The brochure is available from either the city website at www.ci.santa-barbara.ca.us (select "Tree Removal" under "Selected Documents"), or from the City of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation Department Administrative Office at 620 Laguna Street in downtown Santa Barbara. A companion booklet, *Trees and Views Can Coexist*, is also available at the Administrative Office.

Increases Considered for City Water and Wastewater Rates

Significant capital improvements are being planned for the city's water and wastewater systems. These multi-million dollar projects are required to enable the city to meet federal, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements. Specifically, these projects are needed to: ensure that the city's underground water supply is available and meets all water quality regulations; prevent costly water main breaks; provide uninterrupted service to city water customers; and ensure that the quality and cleanliness of treated wastewater discharged into the ocean continues to meet Regional Water Quality Control Board permit conditions, as well as those regulating air emissions.

The City of Santa Barbara is reviewing water and wastewater rates as a part of the fiscal year 2005 budget development process. Operating costs continue to rise higher than inflation. Also, required capital projects will mean higher fixed costs. As a result, the City Council will be considering increases in water and wastewater rates so that quality water and wastewater services to city residents are maintained.

The City Water Commission has reviewed the proposed budgets and considered rate options for meeting expenditures and maintaining adequate financial reserves for each system. For water rates, the commission has suggested an increased monthly service charge to address higher fixed costs, and an increase in the unit water rate to reflect increased operating costs. The commission's goal has been to recommend rate adjustments for the coming year that will limit future increases to approximately the rate of inflation.

The average, single-family residential water customer using 12 hundred cubic feet per month, currently pays around \$69 per month for water and wastewater service. Under rates being considered, the average water and sewer bill would increase by approximately \$8, to about \$77 per month. New rates would take effect on water bills mailed in July 2004.

The Water Commission will conduct a public workshop on rate options on April 14, 2004 at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Second Floor, City Hall, De la Guerra Plaza.

For more information on water and wastewater rates, call the Public Works Department at (805) 564-5382, or visit the city's website at: www.ci.santa-barbara.ca.us/departments/public_works/water_resources (click on "FY 2005 Water and Wastewater Rate Options"). Written comments can be addressed to: Administrative Officer, Public Works Department, P.O. Box 1990, Santa Barbara, CA 93102.

Planned Capital Projects

Water system:

- ★ *Third and final phase of rehabilitation at the Cater Water Treatment Plant to meet stringent new EPA water quality regulations: Estimated cost \$15 million.*
- ★ *Major upgrade of the Ortega Well Treatment Facility to support use of groundwater during droughts and other supply shortages: Estimated cost \$10 million.*
- ★ *Ongoing water main replacement program: Estimated cost \$2.5 million yearly.*

***The above projects
will follow major work
currently underway at the
Cater plant and Sheffield
Reservoir.***

Wastewater system:

- ★ *Substantial rehabilitation of El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant*
- ★ *Increased reliability and control of treatment plant processes*
- ★ *Ongoing sewer main replacement program*

Inside Santa Barbara, City TV – Channel 18

Airing March 6th through April 7th:

- Bohnett Park Ribbon Cutting
- Integrated Pest Management
- Street Sweeping
- Habitat for Humanity
- Adapted Aquatics Swim Class

For more information, contact City TV Production Supervisor Tony Ruggieri at City Television – Channel 18: (805) 564-5311; truggieri@ci.santa-barbara.ca.us; or visit www.citytv18.com.

Inside Santa Barbara
program line-up starts:
Saturday, March 6th
at 9 p.m.

Weekly air times

Mon.	8 p.m.
Tues.	5 p.m.
Wed.	6:30 p.m.
Sat.	9 p.m.
Sun.	10:30 p.m.



Santa Barbara Whale Festival - 10th Annual Event

Saturday - Sunday, March 27th & 28th

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

On State Street between the Train Station & Stearns Wharf

Two full days of fun, food, arts and crafts! There will be entertainment for the entire family including whale watching tours, diving demonstrations, a rescue/fire demonstration at sea, rubber duck race, whale information stations, and more!

The festival is sponsored by the Beachside Business Association in partnership with the Stearns Wharf Business Association. Proceeds benefit The Santa Babara Marine Mammal Center and The Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

For more information, contact Reneé Smith at (805) 969-5244; or visit www.sbwhalefestival.com.



In the Works

Shoreline Park Expansion

Connecting Leadbetter Beach Park and Shoreline Park, the upcoming Shoreline Park Expansion project will add some much needed improvements between Loma Alta and La Marina. The project will convert the two driving lanes closest to the beach along Shoreline Drive from vehicular traffic to an expanded sidewalk, a wide stretch of grass, and a dedicated two-way bike path similar to the waterfront. Vehicular traffic will then use the existing two lanes closest to the Mesa, similar to Shoreline Drive west of La Marina. Lash Construction, a local contractor, plans a mid-February start. Completion is anticipated near the end of April.

Summer Camp Sign-Up Starts Saturday, April 17th!

With summer just around the corner, soon it will be time to enroll in the city's Parks and Recreation Department's many popular summer camps and sports clinics.

Camp registration starts on April 17th, from 8-10 a.m. at the Carrillo Recreation Center, or online at www.sbparksandrecreation.com. Look for the *Spring & Summer Activity Guide* beginning April 1st, for complete program information including youth arts, dance, sports, aquatics and tennis programs; Summer Late Nights for teens; and plenty of opportunities for adult sports, fitness, and enrichment. Santa Barbara city residents receive 20% discounts on fees, so be sure to get your Resident Discount Card before signing up for summer fun!

For more information on programs and locations to "get carded," call (805) 564-5418, or go to www.sbparksandrecreation.com.



DIRECTORY OF CITY DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES

Area Code: (805)

City Hall, 735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Website: www.ci.santa-barbara.ca.us

Airport	967.7111	Parks and Recreation	564.5418	Distribution & Collection	
City Administrator	564.5305	Adapted Recreation	564.5421	Water & Sewer Mains	564.5413
City Attorney	564.5326	Adult Sports	564.5422	After Hours	963.4286
City Clerk	564.5309	Aquatics	897.2680	El Estero Wastewater Plant	897.1910
City Employment	564.5316	Community Services	963.7567	Engineering	564.5363
City-TV Channel 18	564.5311	Creeks and Water Quality	897.2658	Graffiti Hotline	897.2513
Community Development	564.5502	Cultural Arts	897.1982	Permit Counter	564.5388
Building & Safety	564.5485	Golf	687.7087	Pot Hole Hotline	897.2630
Housing & Redevelopment	564.5461	Senior Recreation Services	897.2519	Recycling	897.2624
Planning	564.5470	Street Trees	564.5434	Street Light Hotline	564.5416
Finance	564.5334	Teen Programs	897.2650	Street Maintenance	564.5413
Business Licenses	564.5346	Tennis	564.5517	Traffic Signal Hotline	564.5417
Purchasing	564.5349	Youth Activities	564.5495	Transportation Operations	564.5394
Water Billing	564.5343	Police	897.2300	Transportation Planning	564.5385
Fire	965.5254	Emergency Use	9-1-1	Trash Complaints	897.2618
Library	962.7653	Public Works	564.5377	Water Conservation Hotline	564.5460
Eastside Branch	963.3727	ABOP Hotline*	560.7505	Water Resources Admin.	564.5387
Mayor and Council	564.5318	Cater Water Treatment Plant	897.2628	Waterfront	564.5531
		Downtown Parking	963.1581	Harbor Patrol	564.5530
				Parking	564.5523

*Automotive Products, Batteries, Used Motor Oil and Filters, Latex Paints



Be a
Detector
Inspector
on April 4

**DAYLIGHT
SAVINGS
TIME STARTS
APRIL 4TH**

**WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR
CLOCKS, REMEMBER TO
ALSO CHANGE YOUR SMOKE
DETECTOR BATTERIES!**

Santa Barbara City Fire Department offers this easy and important safety tip for local residents.

On Sunday, APRIL 4TH, when you turn your clocks AHEAD one hour for Daylight Savings Time, also remember to install fresh batteries in your home's smoke detectors.

Having working smoke detectors in your home is like having firefighters standing watch for fire in your residence 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Smoke detectors can save lives... IF they are working!